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Constipation.



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WASTE OF THE NATION'S GREAT NATURAL RESOURCES

of Century.

MUCH WASTE IS PREVENTABLE

In the Methods of Mining of Coal and Various Metals-Study of

That the present prodigious waste of the the technologic branch of the United States geological survey, who has just returned to Washington after a three monens' inspection trip through the west. Mr. Holmes, who is an expert on fuels and one in consumption the better part of the fuel supply of the country will be gone by the

Future of American Industries.

"The future ascendancy of American industries will depend largely on our manu-The value and cost of labor will never be reduced in the United States to what they are in foreign countries; but this fact ren- may suffice for the future as well as for the ders all the more essential in the struggle for industrial and commercial supremacy that the manufacturers of this country be able to obtain fuel supplies cheaper than

United States in its combination of soil and forest, and climate, and streams and

"The nation has literally grown up in luxury. Out of the very abundance of these resources we have developed an indifference to economy and the habit of waste. We have destroyed our game for its hides and horns; our forests for their tan bark or a pittance of the lumber they would yield; and meanwhile with a thoughtless indifference we have allowed the forest fires to ence we have allowed the forest fires to nation's industries depend.

washed away from the fields where they are needed and deposited in the streams and harbors of the country from which their continued removal will cost an enormous sum. We are thus gradually but surely destroying the value of our great surely destroying the value of our great water resources for power for irrigation and for navigation purposes. This fertile soil and genial climate have furnished food enough for the nation and to spare; and so luxurious are the habits developed by this over-production of food that it is sometimes said we waste food enough to supply another nation as large as our

Waste of Water.

"Water, the most valuable of all our mineral resources as a source of power, is being wasted day after day and year after year to the extent of millions of horse power. As the essential factor in all irrigation work, it is being wasted by use to excess in many instances; but on a much larger scale and to the value of hundreds of millions of dollars it is being allowed of millions of dollars it is being allowed to go to waste year after year by not being used at all; and in many localities, the limited supply of artesian water available for irrigation and other purposes is being wasted on a considerable scale by being wasted to flow continuously when not needed, or in excess of actual need.

"Other mineral resources are being wasted on as large a scale as is true of waster. "Other mineral resources are being wasted on as large a scale as is true of water, but their waste is even more serious a matter, for the reason that the supplies are not reproduced, as in the case of water, but when are expensed. not reproduced, as in the case of water, but when once exhausted are exhausted permanently. No better illustration of this fact can be found than is seen in the desetted mining camps, deserted after the mines have become exhausted. In connec-tion with metallurgical processes there is often a waste of materials, which also prove injurious, such as the large quantities of sulphur and arsenic vapors that are turned loose from the chimneys of the modern smelters. This waste is preventable and should be prevented, for the double reason that these materials have a commercial and economic value, and they are destructive of adjacent vegetation. This destruction of vegetation allows the rains to evade the bare land surfaces and de-posit the transported soil into the adjacent

Waste in Mining.

"The waste in metal mining and treatment of gold, silver, copper, lead, zinc, iron and other metallic substances under old-time practices was frequently as high as from 20 to 50 per cent, but the modern mining, milling and smelting processes have of late been developed along the lines of increased efficiency. Under these more modern practices waste is now being reduced to from 5 to usually less than 25 per cent. Modern chemistry and metal-lurgy is also developing processes for the treatment of low grade ores, which formerly left in the mines or on the dump, or were used in the construction of walls or were used in the construction of walls or public roads, just as they have developed processes for the profitable retreatment of the enormous piles of tailings (refuse) accumulated under the cruder methods of treatment practiced only a few years since. In the mining and treatment of some of these metalliferous ores there is still opportunity for decided improvement along these lines.

"In the mining and utilization of miscellaneous minerals, existing practice is a great improvement over that of the recent past, and the future is full of promise.

past, and the future is full of promise. Thus in the utilization of the mica deposits Thus in the utilization of the mica deposits formerly only cut sizes of mica were used, now the smaller scales are being collected, ground and used for a number of purposes. The former waste in the quarry is now being largely used for macadamizing public highways, for mixing with cement and send in the construction of concrete huld. sand in the construction of concrete buildings, or for use in a variety of other ways. The waste piles about some of the coal mines and other mines of the past are being taken back into the mines, and new waste materials are being retained in the mines for the building of supporting pillars, and in filling space otherwise left open through the extraction of the mineral deposits, thus greatly diminishing the need for timber and permitting a much larger extraction of valuable material from the

Utilization of Fuels

Waste in the utilization of fuels is a problem that in an especial manner concerns the general public, for the reason

by Mr. A. J. Holmes.

CONSERVATION OF FUEL

Otherwise Supply Will Expire Ahead

of Century

garded, like the water and forests, as public utilities. They furnish our heat, light and power; they serve as the basis of industry and of transpo tation, and are therefore absolutely necessary to the welfare of the nation. But notwithstanding their vast importance it is in the mining and utilization of these fuel resources that we practice the greatest waste.

"Persons now living can recall when the great gas wells were seemingly inexhaustible in Oh'o, Indiana, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. In many of these fields this gas supply was wasted in a manner well-nigh criminal, and the exhaustion has been

nigh criminal, and the exhaustion has been so complete that there is no ground for believing that other supplies of gas will be discovered in many of these special regions.

"Petroleum in the past has, in like man-ner, been wasted, both in enormous overflows and the burning of material. In the early days of petroleum there was also an enormous waste through the fallure to save the gasoline and other bi-products, which now have great value. Here, however, as in the case of the metils, the modern improved practice is doing much to lessen this enormous waste. This problem is one of special importance to the Pacific coast states, owing to the absence of adequate

"Coal is now the world's great fuel. Wood has been used extensively in the past, especially for domestic purposes. Gas and petroleum continue to have an extensive local use, and in power and light developments water power will play an important ments, water power will play an important part in many portions of the country. But the world's great centers and industries of today, and, as far as we know, of the future, must look to coal as their source of

heat, power and light. Enormous Waste in Mining Coal.

"Notwithstanding the recognized imporders impracticable the subsequent mining of the adjacent higher coal beds. Of the smoke, and in overcoming the friction and inertia of the engine, shafting, etc. Of the of the country—not more than 5 per cent is transformed into the actual work of pulling the trains. Of the coal used in the develop-ment of electric lights, usually less than verted into light, the remaining 90 4-5 per cent being consumed in the various prelimmary formations of energy. This waste is appalling, and every possible means should

Vast Areas of Vegetable Matter.

"In the plant life of the earth our coal le'ds represent vast areas of vegetable mater accumulated during past periods in the earth's history, later and gradually transformed into coal. Every foot of the thickness of this coal may be considered the equivalent of many times that thekness of the original vegetation. Of the sun's light and heat our coal represents enormous quantities transformed and stored in this vegetation and further concentrated in the coal. It is the earth's great storage battery of solar energy. In time this coal represents the unmeasured ages of the past, the thousands and millions of years before

considerably more than 400,000,000 tons of consumption was rearly three billion tons, approximates the aggregate consumption of the severty years preceding. This rapidly increasing consumption is normal and proportional to the country's development, and there is no reasonable ground for doubting its continuance, excoal more efficiently. If this increasing rate of consumption does continue the nation will have used the largest part of its coal supply before the end of the present century. In considering the possibilities of extending the life of our coal supplies so as to meet the needs of the future, as well as those of the present, we must, therefore, reckon with the continuance of these rapidly-growing needs of the country and our possibilities of success he along the our possibilities of success be along the following lines: .

Preventable Waste.

"The coal left in the mines as pillars to the breaking up of higher beds of coal, owing to the previous removal of the lower beds and the caving in of the overlying strata, and we have a total waste which will aggregate but little, if any, less than 50 per cent of the possible total available supply. It is believed that an increasingly. supply. It is believed that an increasingly large part of this waste will be found pre-

will be in the near future a larger use of running waters for power and light development. There will also continue a diminishing development of heat and power through the use of wood. In the New England, Atlantic and some of the middle northern states there will be some utilization of the peat beds for similar purposes. A limited future use of alcohol made from wood and barn products for heat and power purposes is probable, but not certain. Petroleum and natural gas will long continue as large local but in a measure temporary. as large local but in a measure temporary contributors to the comforts and industries of the nation. And it is occasionally suggested that the heat of the sun may be stored from day to day in sufficient quantity for continuous power development; but the suggestion has, as yet, too indefinite the suggestion has, as yet, too indefinite a basis to permit of its serious consideration in the present connection. Indeed, the sum of all these possible substitutes in the nation's supply of heat and power and light can not now be expected to seriously lessen the rate of increase in the nation's enormous demand for fuel, and we must revert must be recessed amphasis to the present again with renewed emphasis to the necessity of lessening the waste and increasing efficiencies in the utilization of our coal

supply.
"These fuel resources should be conserved, because their supply is limited. At the present their early exhaustion is certain. If this rate of increase continues the better part of the fuel supply of the country will have been consumed by the end of the present century.

Permanent Exhaustion.

"The exhaustion of mineral resources is permanent exhaustion. One year's wheat crop when consumed is replaced by that of the succeeding year. The forest resources of one period, when exhausted, under favorable conditions may be replaced by a succeeding forest. A water supply of one day or of one period, under favorable con-ditions, may be continued indefinitely by nature's own processes; but when a deposit of coal, or oil, or iron ore, or similar min-eral substances has been exhausted this exhaustion is permanent.
"The mineral resources of the country be-

long to the future as well as to the present generations of men. They should be used, but not wasted. The creation of

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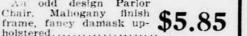
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owners had no part in this creation of resources and have no real rights to them beyond present urgent needs. beyond present urgent needs.

"Let us not forget that these mineral fuels, which we call our own, represent in concentrated form a storage battery of the sun's heat and light, accumulated during countless ages that passed before the human race came into existence. Let not the men of the present generation commit the mean countless of wasting the needs.

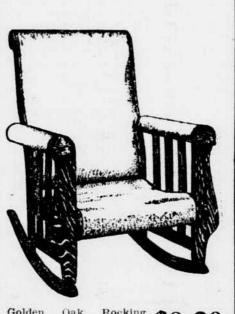
support the roof, together with that left under ground because of its being inferior in quality, will range from less than 10 to more than 80 per cent of the total, these ditions. Add to these the loss arising from

ventable.
"The small percentage of the heat units "The small percentage of the heat units in coal that are actually converted into work or light, as stated above, indicate the urgent need of 'mprovement along these lines. The investigation now being conducted by the technologic branch of the United States geological survey indicate the possibility of increasing these fuel efficiencies by two or three fold, and suggest still greater possibilities which will soon be tested. The future is full of promise, but the solution of these problems calls for extending further investigation. These for extending further investigation. These investigations should be conducted by the federal government, for the reason that the problem is a national one, and its solution is of importance to all the people in all parts of the country.

Possible Substitutes.

"As to possible substitutes for coal, there

the immediate removal of the state rifle range at Creedmoor was made in a presentment in the Queens county court in Long



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WHEN IN DOUBT BUY OF

the unpardonable sin of wasting the neces-sary birthright of the generations yet unborn. This nation must have a great future as well as a great present. "The fuel supply of the country will be sufficient for both present and future needs, if we stop their waste and practice increasing efficiency in their utilization." tion. There can be no suggestion looking to the curtailment of present needs; these needs will increase in proportion as the nation grows in population and in the extent and diversity of its industries. And while the present generation has a right to use the fuel which it actually needs, it is bound by every principle of right and justice not to waste, but to properly conserve for their future use the birthright of the generation yet unborn.

Amount Consumed.

"The people of the United States consumed during the past year about 415,000,000 tons of coal beside large quantities of oil and gas and wood. The total cost of this fuel in the furnaces approximated \$2,000,-000,000. The future growing scarcity of wood, gas and oil and the increasing cost of mining the coal as the surface beds are exhausted and the deeper ones must be reached will naturally increase the aggregate expenditure for fuel even faster than gate expenditure for fuer even laster than the tonnage increases; but the welfare of the nation demands not only that the future has a coal supply, but that the cost of this supply be kept as low as possible.

"We cannot continue this enormous consumption of our fuel resources and at the same time perpetuate the supply of cheap thats." The only solution of the problem is

fuels. The only solution of the problem is that we must learn to use our fuels more efficiently. We must stop this enormous

"The recent investigations conducted by the geological survey indicate great possi-bilities in this direction. It has been dem-onstrated that the low-grade coals, containing as high as 50 per cent ash, which, in our coal mining of the past fifty years have been left under ground and wasted, because they could not be burned in the pecause they could not be burned in the ordinary furnaces, can now be used advantageously for power and heating development, by means of the gas producer and gas engine. It has also been shown that with this new form of equipment the better coals can hereafter be made to yield from two to three times the amount of power that they are now yielding in ordinary. power that they are now yielding in ordi-nary steam furnaces. It has been demonstrated further that the quality of many of these dirty, inferior coals can be improved by various washing processes.

Study of Conditions.

"A study of coal-mining conditions is demonstrating the fact that in the mining operations a much larger percentage of coal can be brought to the surface than was formerly believed to be practicable. Further investigations along these lines indicate possibilities in the way of waste prevention, and increasingly efficient use in connection with the utilization of our fuel supplies. Upon the progress along these lines depends the future welfare of the whole people of the courter.

lines depends the future welfare of the whole people of the country.

"In every civilized country the conservation of fuels and other great resources, or public utilities, is properly coming to be regarded as a national problem, because in every country these fuels serve as a basis of national welfare. The individual citizen looks to the present. He sees little beyond his individual interest of today. The nation, while helping the citizen today, must safeguard the welfare of the citizen of tosafeguard the welfare of the citizen of to-morrow, by a judicious conservation of these resources, which, in reality, belong not to the individual, but to mankind."

Want Target Range Moved. NEW YORK, October 5 .- A demand for

Island City by the grand jury of that county. The presentment said in part:

We demand that the state authorities abandon the use of the Creedmore range for the purpose of rific practice, and that if it be retained by the state for military

ment in the Queens county court in Long

purposes its use, by restricting it to drills and encampments, and we protest against the extension and perpetuation of the nuisance complained of. We demand that the legislature of the state of New York enact such laws as may be necessary to compel the disuse of the range for target practice.

The cause for the foregoing demands are summed up in one other paragraph of the presentment, which declares "that the lives of the farmer and those of his employes as well as his live stock are in constant danger from said rifle range, because of the that stray bullets from the range paragraph.

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is the

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above the backstops and shields maintained by the state, and sweep across and over the entire countryside."

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